GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
POWER
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:5208
ANSWERED ON:10.12.2010
RELEASE OF WATER TO RAJASTHAN
Singh Shri Ratan

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether in the 192nd meeting of Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) the release of 0.17 MAF water to Rajasthan through BML was discussed;

(b) if so, the outcome thereof;

(c) whether the matter was referred to the Ministry of Power after the objection raised by Haryana;

(d) if so, the details thereof; and

(e) the action taken by the Government thereon?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF POWER (SHRI BHARATSINH SOLANKI)

(a) & (b) : The matter regarding supply of 0.17 MAF of water to Rajasthan through Bhakra Main Line Canal was discussed in the 192nd meeting of Bhakra Beas Management Board (BBMB) held on 11.07.2006. In this meeting, Member (Haryana) did not agree to the allocation of 0.17 MAF of water to Rajasthan through Bhakra Main Line (BML) citing the fact that the BML has not been restored to its original designed capacity of 12,500 Cs.

(c) to (e) : Due to the disagreement of Member (Haryana), BBMB referred the matter to the Government of India, under Rule − 7 of BBMB Rules, 1974 for decision in the matter. Under the provisions of an agreement of 31.12.1981 relating to surplus Ravi-Beas waters, 0.17 MAF was to be released to Rajasthan through Bhakra Main Line. However, the State of Punjab has enacted the `Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004`, terminating and discharging the Government of Punjab from its obligations under the agreement dated 31.12.1981 between Punjab, Haryana and Rajasthan on reallocation of waters and under all other agreements relating to waters of Ravi-Beas. Government of India has made a Presidential Reference to the Supreme Court on 20.07.2004 inter-alia whether the Punjab Termination of Agreements Act, 2004 and the provisions thereof are, in accordance with the provisions of the Constitution of India. The case is pending adjudication.